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70p



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**BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 3
BOLTON WANDERERS**

Saturday, September 10th, 1988, Kick-off 3pm

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IAN

BRANFOOT

AFTER a tremendous team performance at Wolverhampton last Saturday, despite the result, it was strange to see the same players perform so ineptly in the first half against Torquay. Where we had been bubbly, full of running, and oozing confidence at Molineux, we were quiet, tentative and short of confidence at Elm Park. It is not easy to understand if you have not played the game, but the pressure of playing in front of your own supporters can affect team performance drastically. Not only can it suppress ability and character but conversely, as we saw in the second half, it can stimulate and contribute to a good team performance. The second 45 minutes were vastly different to the first and it was only because we managed to score that confidence flooded back. At that time support too flooded back and instead of complaints we got cheers. That means so much to the players. There are no players at this club who lack effort, there are no players at this club who do not want to work and win, but there are some who are adversely affected by criticism and jeers.

I am not asking the supporters to stop criticising, for if you are paying good money it is your right to be free to say what you wish and express your views. However, what you must realise is that you are not helping the situation at all, indeed, you are adding to the problem and compounding the issue. At the end of the game we are all after the same thing, a win. We would far rather do it with your support and assistance than with your criticism and jeers.

Welcome to Phil Neal and his Bolton team, directors and supporters. After a brief visit to the Fourth Division, Bolton are back on the rise hoping to recapture former glories. We have had some stirring games against them in past seasons and no doubt we are in for another today. Enjoy the game!



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Volume 43, No. 3

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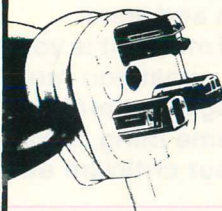
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ROYAL REWARD!

Reading fan Neville Bedding will be watching his Elm Park favourites courtesy of his brewery office colleagues this season following a party and presentation marking his 40 years service with Royals sponsors, Courage.

Neville, who lives at Thirlmere Avenue, Tilehurst, was presented with a club season ticket at a surprise luncheon at the White Hart, Thatcham, organised by his workmates from Courage's Reading depot.

A senior tenanted sales assistant, Neville completed four decades with the brewers last month but his association with the Royals goes back to wartime football when he saw his first match at Elm Park against Arsenal in 1944.

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BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 3		Res	Crowd	Po	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
AUGUST		1-3	5,512	22	Francis	Curle	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Franklin	Jones	Taylor	Tait	Moran	Gilkes	Elsey	Gordon (10)
27 Sheffield United (LC1.1)		1-0	2,182	-	Francis	Elsey	Richardson	Tait	Hicks	Curle	Jones	Taylor	Whitehurst	Moran	Gilkes	Beavon	Franklin
SEPTEMBER		1-2	10,513	21	Francis	Elsey	Richardson	Tait	Hicks	Curle	Jones	Taylor	Whitehurst	Moran	Gilkes	Beavon	Franklin
3 Wolverhampton Wanderers		3-1	3,363	-	Francis	Elsey	Richardson	Tait	Hicks	Curle	Jones	Taylor	Whitehurst	Moran	Gilkes	Beavon	Gordon
7 Wigan Athletic																	
10 Bolton Wanderers																	
OCTOBER																	
21 Southend United																	
24 Gillingham																	
NOVEMBER																	
1 Chester City																	
4 Bury																	
8 Cardiff City																	
15 Mansfield Town																	
22 Notts. County																	
26 Bristol Rovers																	
DECEMBER																	
23 Northampton Town																	
8 Farnborough																	
12 Preston North End																	
19 FA Cup 1																	
JANUARY																	
2 Swansea City																	
2 Walsley United (FA Cup 3)																	
17 Walsley United																	
21 Bolton Wanderers																	
28 Wigan Athletic (FA Cup 4)																	
FEBRUARY																	
4 Chester City																	
11 Bury																	
18 Cardiff City (FA Cup 5)																	
25 Mansfield Town																	
MARCH																	
1 Bristol Rovers																	
4 Notts. County																	
11 Brentford																	
18 Northampton Town																	
25 Sheffield United (FA Cup 6)																	
27 Swansea City																	
APRIL																	
1 Port Vale																	
5 Huddersfield Town																	
8 Blackpool																	
14 Southend United																	
22 Gillingham																	
29 Preston North End																	
MAY																	
1 Fulham																	
6 Bristol City																	
13 Chesterfield																	
20 FA Cup Final																	

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Figure in brackets after substitute indicates number of player replaced.

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1988-89				CAREER	
Lge	FA	LC	SVT	Gls	Gls
2	—	2	—	419+1	19
1	—	0+1	—	352+13	36
2	—	2	—	240+3	2
2	—	2	—	71+17	11
2	—	2	—	69+4	3
2	—	2	—	56	—
2	—	2	—	45	3
2	—	2	—	38+1	3
2	—	2	—	38	—
2	—	2	—	29+4	9
0+1	—	—	—	25+2	10
1	—	2	—	18	7
1	—	—	—	6+1	—
1+1	—	2	—	3+1	—

● Includes Lge, FA Cup and League Cup

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	Home			Away			Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	
Sheffield United ...	2	1	0	0	4	1	6
Fulham ...	2	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bristol City ...	2	1	0	0	0	2	1
Bury ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Swansea City ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Chester ...	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
Northampton ...	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
Notts County ...	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
Bolton Wanderers ...	2	1	0	0	0	1	4
Gillingham ...	2	1	0	0	4	0	4
Port Vale ...	2	0	0	1	0	0	2
Huddersfield ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Southend ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Brentford ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Wolves ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Bristol Rovers ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Chesterfield ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Mansfield ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Wigan A. ...	2	0	1	0	0	0	2
Blackpool ...	2	0	1	0	0	0	2
Reading ...	2	0	0	1	1	3	1
Aldershot ...	2	0	0	1	0	0	1
Preston NE ...	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
Cardiff City ...	2	0	0	1	1	2	0

(up to and including Saturday, September 3)



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teams are Reading and
Tottenham and Martin
Hicks and Michael Gilkes
are his favourite players.
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and motor car racing.

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READING FC 1988/89



READING FOOTBALL CLUB 1988-89: (back row, left to right): John Haselden (physio), Andy King, Keith Curle, Adrian Chatterley, Gary Phillips, Colin Gordon, Martin Hicks, Billy Whitehurst, Paul Franklin, Steve Francis, Mick Tait, Kark Elsey, Russell Goodenough, Stewart Henderson (youth development officer/coach). Front: Michael Gilkes, Stuart Beavon, Colin Mitchell, Naseem Bashir, Ian Branfoot (manager), Lew Chatterley (assistant manager), Les Taylor, Steve Moran, Steve Richardson, Linden Jones.

Reading Chronicle



for local football

MEET THE

BOLTON WANDERERS

with **STEVE GOLDREICH**

VISITORS

AFTER plunging from First Division to Fourth in seven years, Bolton Wanderers are on their way back.

The Lancashire club, relegated to Division 4 for the first time last year, bounced straight back in May.

For much of the season they hovered on the fringe of the top three, seemingly unable to reach the third promotion place behind Wolves and Cardiff. But as better-placed rivals Scunthorpe and Torquay dithered, Bolton won three of their last four games to pip them by a single point.

It all came right on the last day for Wanderers, who won 1-0 at Wrexham with a Robbie Savage goal while Scunthorpe won 2-1 at Torquay. Had either result been different, Phil Neal's men would have missed out.

The Trotters ran up some impressive wins during the campaign, beating Newport 6-0, Carlisle 5-0, Colchester 4-0 and Peterborough 4-0 away.

Top goalscorer, with 28 in all competitions last term, was striker John Thomas. The one-time Everton player is now in his second spell at Burnden Park, returning via Chester, Lincoln and Preston, and he has over 100 League goals to his credit.

Two former Reading loan players figured in Bolton's successful campaign — defenders Dean Crombie and Dave Sutton. Crombie joined us from Grimsby for four games in 1986, while we took Sutton from Huddersfield for a nine-match spell in 1977-78. Wanderers released him during the close season.

Bolton's promotion-winning points total of 78 was a club record. It beat the previous best by 14.

The club is one of the twelve founding members of the Football League, which is now a century old. They themselves were formed in 1874 as Christ Church FC, and adopted their current name three years later.

Wanderers' heyday was the 1920s. They won the FA Cup three times, in 1923, 1926 and 1929, and finished third in Division 1 — their highest-ever placings — in 1921 and 1925.

They won the FA Cup once more, beating Manchester United 2-0 in 1958. Nat Lofthouse, who scored both goals, became Bolton's most-capped player with 33 for England and their record League scorer. He is now club president.

Following this triumph the Burnden club went from the First Division to the Third and back again by 1978. But two years later they started on a slide that took them down to the basement in 1987.

Wanderers began the new campaign with a trip to Southend, going down 2-0. Former Royal David Crown scored the Essex club's second goal.

The Trotters bounced back a week later beating Cardiff 4-0. The goals coming from John Thomas, Gary Henshaw and a Julian Darby brace.

Wanderers received a bad setback when they crashed out of the Littlewoods Cup 3-1 on aggregate at Chester, defender Mark Came broke his leg.

Manager Phil Neal has been at Burnden Park since December 1985. Capped 50 times for England, he won a sackful of club honours during a career at Liverpool in which he made over 500 appearances. His playing career began at Northampton, and even now he still turns out for Bolton.

Our last meeting at Elm Park, on October 5, 1985, was one of the most nailbiting games here in years. Royals had won their first ten League games of the season, and together with Manchester United were bidding to equal Tottenham's record start.

We took a tenth-minute lead through Steve Wood, then missed a number of chances and hung on desperately as Wanderers came close to equalising.

But we held out for a 1-0 win, and to add to the delight of the crowd United could only draw their game at Luton. A week later we went on to break Spurs' record at Newport.

Bolton's one other League visit to Elm Park came in October 1984. We won 3-1 with goals from Colin Duncan, Dean Horrix and Trevor Senior, Jeff Chandler replied for the visitors.

STAR PLAYER

JOHN THOMAS (forward)

Born Wednesbury. Began his career with Everton although didn't play a League game for them he was allowed to gain experience at both Tranmere and Halifax on loan. Joined the Wanderers from Goodison at the start of 1980-81 season but failed to gain a regular place. Has since been with Chester, Lincoln and Preston with whom he was a consistent goalgetter and returned to Burnden at the start of last season. He was the club's leading scorer last term with 22 League goals.



BOLTON WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB 1988-89 (back row, left to right): Ian Callaghan, Gary Henshaw, Paul Hughes, David Felgate, Julian Darby, Ian Stevens, Chris O'Brien. Middle: Phil Neal (manager), Steve Carroll (youth coach), Nicky Brookman, Gary Brown, Stuart Storer, Trevor Morgan, Dave McKearney, Bob Savage, Jeff Chandler, Mick Brown (coach), Phil Stock (physio). Front: John Thomas, Steve Elliott, Phil Brown, Mark Came, Mark Winstanley, Dean Crombie, Barry Cowdrill, Steve Thompson.

DAVID FELGATE (goalkeeper): Born Blaenau Ffestiniog. Commenced his career with Bolton as an apprentice but failed to make a first team appearance before being sold to Lincoln for £25,000 although he had gained League experience whilst on loan to Rochdale and Crewe. Returned to Bolton in February 1987 after spells with Cardiff and Grimsby. An ever-present last season in the Wanderers promotion winning team and also voted Player of the Year.

PHIL BROWN (full-back): Born South Shields. Signed during the close season for a fee of £17,000 from Halifax Town. Commenced his League career with Hartlepool for whom he played more than 200 games. After his transfer to Halifax he scored 14 goals during 1986-87 a record for a full-back.

PAUL HUGHES (full-back): Born Manchester. Came through the Wanderers youth ranks being captain to the successful Lancashire Youth Cup winning side of 1987. Made 11 League appearances last season making his debut in the 2-1 home win over Stockport at Christmas.

BARRY COWDRILL (full-back): Born Birmingham. Made his League bow with West Bromwich Albion in the First Division in 1980 after being secured from Sutton Coldfield. Has since made over 100 appearances for Albion and joined the Wanderers on a free transfer during the summer. He can also play on the left hand side of midfield.

DEAN CROMBIE (full-back/defender): Born Lincoln. A vastly experienced player with over 350 League appearances to his name most of them with Grimsby Town which he joined from Lincoln City. Joined the Wanderers from the Mariners twelve months ago and made 24 appearances last season in which he had a number of injury problems. Played on loan at Elm Park two years ago.

MARK WINSTANLEY (defender): Born St Helens. Has been on the fringe of the Wanderers first team squad for two seasons having come through the club's youth ranks. Made his debut at Bournemouth in March 1986 and having forced his way into last season's promotion winning side he should make one of the central defensive positions his own during the coming season.

MARK CAME (defender): Born Exeter. Joined the Wanderers from non-league Winsford United late in 1983-84 season before becoming a regular first teamer twelve months later. Since then has made almost 150 League appearances for the club missing only three games last season and finding the net on five occasions.

JULIAN DARBY (defender/midfield): Born Bolton. The only Bolton born player currently in the first team squad has worked his way through the ranks making his League debut during the 1985-86 season. Has proved his versatility by producing gutsy performances at either right-back, central defence or midfield.

IAN CALLAGHAN (midfield): Born Liverpool. Another youngster who has made his way up through the club's junior teams but has yet to gain a regular first team spot. Made his first team debut in last season's FA Cup win at Wrexham. No relation to his namesake the former Liverpool international.

NICKY BROOKMAN (midfield): Born Manchester. Has had spells at Newport, Aston Villa and Wrexham as a youth player before joining the Wanderers. Made his League debut against Carlisle at Burnden in April 1987 and played 26 League games last term netting six goals.

ROBBIE SAVAGE (full-back/midfield): Born Liverpool. Began his career as an apprentice at Liverpool but first appeared in the Football League whilst on loan to Wrexham. He has since played for Stoke, Bournemouth and Bradford City before joining the Wanderers in a £30,000 deal in September 1987. He grabbed the all important goal at Wrexham last season that earned the Wanderers promotion to the Third Division.

JEFF CHANDLER (midfield): Born Hammersmith. In his second spell with the Wanderers after commencing his career with Blackpool and Leeds United. Made 157 appearances in his first spell before joining Derby County with whom he won promotion to the Second Division. After a spell on loan at Mansfield he rejoined Bolton at the start of last season but made only three appearances after suffering from injury.

GARY HENSHAW (midfield): Born Leeds. Joined the Wanderers from his only other League club Grimsby Town, at the beginning of the 1987-88 season, after making 50 appearances for them. He was in the Wanderers first team squad for most of last season in which he made 31 League appearances.

STEVE THOMPSON (midfield): Born Oldham. Made his League debut for the Wanderers in November 1982 having begun his career with the club as an apprentice. Made over 200 League appearances in three divisions of the Football League for the club and missed only two games last term.

STEVE ELLIOTT (forward): Born Walthamstow. Began his career with Nottingham Forest before joining Preston where he made over 200 League appearances. Had spells at both Luton and Walsall before moving back to the North West with the Wanderers at the start of the 1986-87 season. Had injury problems last season which saw him make 19 League appearances.

IAN STEVENS (forward): Born Malta. Joined the Wanderers in 1987 after impressing in the Central League side. Began his career at Preston before spending a short time with Stockport County. Last term he was used as cover for the more experienced strikers but was leading scorer in the reserves with 16 goals.

STUART STORER (midfield/forward): Born Harborough. First joined the Wanderers on loan from Everton towards the end of 1987. After three games he signed in a £25,000 deal and went on to make another 11 League appearances last term. Began his career with Mansfield Town before moving to Birmingham City and then on to Goodison. Has also had a loan spell with Wigan Athletic.

TREVOR MORGAN (forward): Born Forest Gate. Made his League bow with Bournemouth who secured his transfer from non-league Leytonstone. After a short spell with Mansfield returned to Dean Court before moving to the South West and spells with Bristol City, Exeter City and Bristol Rovers before moving back across Bristol to rejoin City. Moved to the Wanderers during the summer of 1987 and made 38 League appearances last term scoring seven times.



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HELPING THE GAME

The Football Trust receives £9 million annually from the Spotting the Ball competition run by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettors and spends it all on projects which benefit football throughout the United Kingdom.

Since 1979 it has been committed to the development of the game at every level and its broad and varying initiatives have ranged from essential safety work at Tottenham to social work at Tooty, refurbishment at Wembley to repairs at Welling, closed circuit television at all League clubs to community facilities at Oldham Athletic, transport improvements at Sheffield Wednesday to storm damage in the South East of England, from policing costs at Hull City to an artificial pitch at Hyde United.

1988-89 will see The Football Trust increase its commitment by investing further sums in closed circuit television, transport facilities for supporters and projects to bring Football League clubs closer to their local community.

WARNING

At the beginning of the season more than 110 League grounds in England, Wales and Scotland will be equipped with CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION which has been funded by The Football Trust.

It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police. Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law.

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

SAFETY FIRST

Football grounds in England and Wales have reached their highest ever level of safety thanks to the £23,671,425 invested by the Football Grounds Improvement Trust since 1975.

Almost every League club has been assisted with essential safety work and further substantial sums have been spent to enable them to improve facilities. In the past year alone FGIT grants to Football League clubs totalled:

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Safety	2,254,723
Improvements	770,561

In addition to its safety programme, FGIT has also allocated £1.5 million to build or improve family and disabled facilities at League grounds during 1988.

NO SMOKING



**PLEASE remember there is a
'No Smoking' rule in the stands.
We would respectfully ask you
all to observe this.**

Fanfare...

GOOD afternoon and a warm welcome to you all to Elm Park and in particular to our visitors from Bolton Wanderers. The Royals are away for the following two Saturdays, at Wigan on the 17th and at Gillingham on the 24th. The Supporters Club will be running coaches to both matches and you can book up today by visiting the main Supporters Club office under 'C' stand. Remember to travel on the coach you must be a member of the Supporters Club, to join it is only 50p from either the office or the main shop in the South Bank. Membership of the new Social Club, which also includes supporters club membership, is £10 for adults only. The new Social Club is open all week both lunchtime and evenings and is finished to a very high standard.

For the programme collectors amongst you I am pleased to advise you that a number of collections have been purchased during the close season and these will be on sale as from today. Homes back to 1949 are now in stock and aways back to the mid 1950's. If you require any please bring your lists up for checking. England homes back to the early 1960's along with many cup finals and semi-finals are also available, many at reduced prices. More recently all of last season's programmes (except Reading home and away) are half price and bundles of 50 programmes from previous seasons are just £1.00 each.

The Supporters' Club will again be running a football quiz this season and for the 10th season will be sponsored by Thames Valley Cleaning Contractors, for which we give Roy Tranter our grateful thanks. Last season's competition was in fact won by the sponsors for the first time and their team included John Campbell, Paul Black, Willie Rush, Steve Raybould and Eddie Scott. They defeated Timaloy Bhoys (the previous season's winners) by 20 points in a well contested match. In the National Federation League, the Supporters' 'A' team won the First Division at their second attempt and achieved it in style by winning every match. The standard of the competition is very high and we offer our belated congratulations. The 'A' team also finished runners-up in the League Cup, losing to London Blackpool in the final by just five points. The 'B' team finished third in Division 1 behind London Blackpool and the 'A' team. I am sure you will agree that the members of both teams did magnificently.

● Simon Eedle

For club information call: 'ROYALINE' on 0898 700 277

THIRD DEGREE . . . with Mark Gonnella

READING manager Ian Branfoot is one of the longest serving managers in Division Three.

Here's a league table of the men in charge with their length of service in their respective hot-seats.

- 1 Sam Ellis, Blackpool, June 1982
- 2 Ian Greaves, Mansfield, January 1983
- 3 John Rudge, Port Vale, December 1983
- 4 **IAN BRANFOOT, READING, JANUARY 1984**
- 5 Martin Dobson, Bury, March 1984
- 6 Graham Carr, Northampton, April 1985
- 7 Len Walker, Aldershot, June 1985
- 7 Harry McNally, Chester, June 1985
- 9 Phil Neal, Bolton, December 1985
- 10 Frank Burrows, Cardiff, May 1986
- 11 John McGrath, Preston, June 1986
- 11 Roy Matthias, Wigan, June 1986
- 13 Ray Lewington, Fulham, July 1986
- 13 Terry Yorath, Swansea, July 1986
- 15 Graham Turner, Wolves, October 1986
- 16 Steve Perryman, Brentford, February 1987
- 17 Kevin Randall, Chesterfield, June 1987
- 17 John Barnwell, Notts County, June 1987
- 19 Gerry Francis, Bristol Rovers, July 1987
- 20 Paul Clark, Southend, September 1987
- 21 Paul Taylor, Gillingham, December 1987
- 22 Dave Bassett, Sheffield Utd, January 1988
- 23 Joe Jordon, Bristol City, May 1988
- 24 Eoin Hand, Huddersfield, June 1988

● Sheffield United showed their win at Elm Park was no flash in the pan as they ran in four against Bristol Rovers at Bramall Lane. A crowd of just under 10,000 packed the terraces to see United win 4-1 and move to the top of the first league table of the campaign.

● *Today's opponents Bolton were also in goal-scoring mood. All their goals came after the break when Cardiff were reduced to ten men.*

● **Another side finding no trouble hitting the back of the net were Bristol City. They crushed Chesterfield 4-0 at Ashton Gate with Alan Walsh bagging a brace.**

● Former Reading loan player George Shipley was on target for Jerry Williams' Gillingham in their 2-0 victory at Aldershot. The Shots are one of four sides yet to pick up a point so far.

● *Radio 210's David Hamilton is already beginning to talk about promotion for his beloved Fulham. They made it six points out of six against Southend thanks to a late strike from Gordon Davies.*

● **Huddersfield picked up their first victory in several months with a 2-0 success at home to Preston. Former Oxford defender Malcolm Shotton scored the second.**

● Chester are another unbeaten side in the division. They took the points at Port Vale with a 2-1 win. Ron Futchter was on target for the home side. Remember him Hicksie??

● *Wigan, Reading's opponents next week, were held to a goalless home draw by Mansfield. Neither side has yet won a game.*

● **Finally news from the fourth. Ex-Reading striker Phil Stant was on target for Hereford as they crushed Colin Bailie's Cambridge 4-2.**

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Royals in Focus



Big Billy salutes his eighth-minute opener.



Les Taylor, back to his best at Molineux, shows some midfield composure.

Billy



Michael Gilkes leaves another defender in his wake.

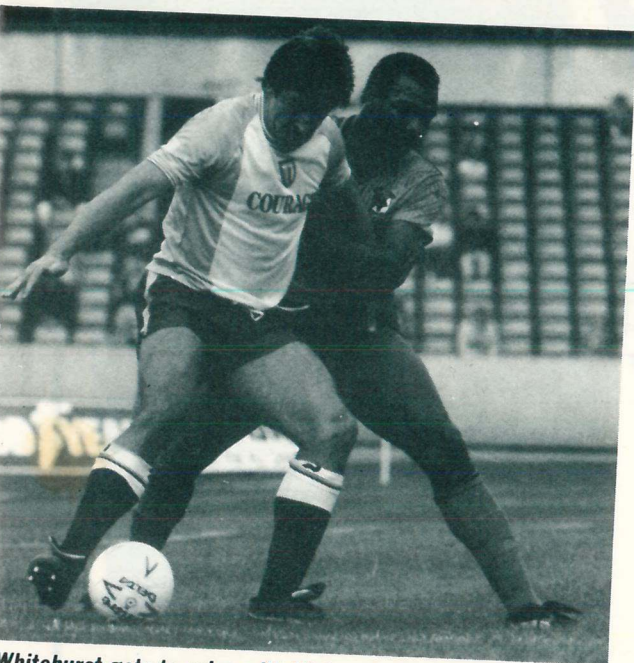


**Royals
photographer
JOHN HAWKEN
captures the action
from Royals 2-1
defeat against
Wolves last
Saturday.**



**Skipper Ma
Kendall as th**

Molineux Action



Whitehurst gets to grips with Wolves defender Floyd Streete.



New boy Karl Elsey muscled his way round Molineux.



in Hicks outjumps Mark
Royals try to save a point.



The one that got away! Steve Moran shoots wide in the final seconds.

Royals in Focus

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with
**ALAN
SEDUNARY**

20 YEARS AGO . . .

HAVING beaten Hartlepool 7-0 the previous week Reading travelled to Walsall on 7th September 1968 full of confidence. Not surprisingly we took the game to Walsall and were rewarded after 16 minutes when John Sainty gave us the lead after good work by John Collins and Denis Allen. After the break Walsall showed more determination and on the hour Wilson equalised for them after a goalmouth scramble then with 13 minutes to go the home side took the lead when Nick Atthey scored a spectacular solo goal. Reading refused to concede the game and with six minutes to go John Sainty headed in Denis Allen's free kick to give us a 2-2 draw. In the same week John Chapman, Reading's tough tackling defender escaped suspension following what must have been the most farcical sending offs in Reading's history. In our League Cup tie at Colchester the previous month Chapman had stepped off the pitch to receive instruction while Reading were making a substitution. The referee promptly booked him for leaving the pitch without permission and then sent him off for entering the pitch without the refs OK.

Bolton were losing by the only goal of the game in a Second Division game at Blackpool, while in the same division Birmingham and Palace were both hitting five goals, passed Huddersfield and Carlisle respectively. Highest scorers of the day were Spurs who beat Burnley 7-0 at White Hart Lane.

40 YEARS AGO . . .

ON 11th September 1948 we travelled to Ipswich still looking for our first points away from Elm Park that season. Things began disastrously for us as Jennings and Parker put the home side 2-0 up in the first half but we pulled a goal back when Bill Green converted a penalty given for hands. We then had a goal disallowed and to make matters worse Dempsey made it 3-1 just before half time. Reading dominated the second half and Tony MacPhee hit the bar before Vic Barney pulled another goal back for us but we were unable to get an equaliser and so lost 3-2. On the same day Bolton were doing what every modern club dreams of, they won at Anfield by the only goal of the game. High scoring games

that day were at Stamford Bridge where Chelsea beat Everton 6-0 and in Division Three North where York won by the same score. Most goals though came at the Den, Millwall beating Brighton 6-2 in a Division Three South game.

60 YEARS AGO . . .

READING had made a disastrous start to the season with only one point from the first four games when we met Southampton at Elm Park on 8th September 1928. Manager Andrew Wylie had made five changes the previous week and the new look team had responded with their first point in a goalless draw against Preston. He kept the same team for the Saints' visit but again the forwards failed to score, leaving the visitors to take both points with the only goal of the game, scored by Cribb. Despite the poor start the Reading supporters were remaining loyal with 15,504 paying £984 to watch this Second Division fixture.

On the same day Bolton, including future Reading player and manager Billy Butler, were losing 3-0 at home to Blackpool in the First Division.

TODAY'S THE DAY

Reading have won as many away games on 10th September as we have at Elm Park but as we have only won twice at home in the League that's not too difficult. Only six League games have been staged at Elm Park on this date, the last back in 1966 when we drew 2-2 with QPR. Our two victories came in 1949 when we beat Ipswich 3-1 and in 1960 when Hull were defeated 2-0.

On the same day as we were beating Hull at Elm Park the first televised League game was being shown on ITV. The game played on a Friday was intended to be the first of a series of live matches but it was a dreary affair with Bolton winning 1-0 at Blackpool and the experiment was not continued.

A lot earlier, 90 years ago today, Sunderland played their first ever game at Roker Park and celebrated by beating Liverpool 1-0. Within six months this new ground was staging a full international that saw England rout Ireland 13-2.



"IN THE BOX"

with
**JONATHAN
RICHARDS**

I very nearly didn't make the Torquay match midweek after sitting in a car park at the Farnborough airshow attempting to escape for an hour and a half.

As the minutes ticked by I couldn't help but eye the passing helicopters with some jealousy.

But I was eventually released and made it to Elm Park.

But after 21 minutes of the game I must say I was beginning to think that being stuck in a traffic jam was a better way to spend the evening.

I'm glad to say that the team kept plugging away and the goals came. Any thoughts of a big name draw were soon dashed though, when our old cup rivals Bradford City were announced as our second round opposition.

I can only hope it's fate and that we will manage to remove them from the competition in some style, but

I'm afraid with all respect to Bradford the tie isn't that an exciting prospect.

Anyway that must be put to the back of the players' minds as they attempt to pick up their first League points this afternoon.

I must admit I missed their game at Wolves last weekend, but by all accounts it sounds like it was a performance full of promise. So let's hope that can be built on today.

As at the time of writing, the postal system in this country isn't . . . I've decided to postpone any future questions until things have got back to normal. But I'll announce the winner of the first competition next time.

Don't forget to try and get your dedications to me. Either drop them into the club offices or by hand to Radio 210 in Calcot.

LITTLEWOODS CUP SECOND ROUND

After our 3-1 victory over Torquay in the 1st round of the Littlewoods Cup we have been drawn in round two against our old adversaries Bradford City. The first leg will be played on Wednesday, 28th September kick-off 8.00pm at Elm Park and the 2nd leg at Bradford on Wednesday, 12th October.

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In Reserve



● Gary Phillips, Royals new goalkeeper. A close-season signing from Brentford

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Fulham Res 2, Reading Res 1

THE Royals' second string were unlucky not to come back with a point from the trip to London after a battling performance against an experienced Fulham side which included Gary Peters.

Fulham took the lead early on but Colin Gordon headed home a right wing cross from George Friel before half time. The Royals had chances to win the game after the break but it was the home side who came out on top despite a tenacious display by the Royals youngsters.

Paul Franklin and Scott Taylor both missed the game with back injuries.

Reading Res: Phillips, Williams, Goodenough, Cox, Shaw, Chatterley, Saunders, Gordon, Friel (sub King), Beavon, Mitchell (sub Hodgson).

OVENDEN PAPERS FOOTBALL COMBINATION

AUGUST

Tues. 30 Millwall.....H LOST 0-2

SEPTEMBER

Sat. 3 Oxford UnitedH LOST 3-5

Tues. 6 FulhamA LOST 1-2

Tues. 13 PortsmouthH

Sat. 17 Norwich CityH

Sat. 24 Queen's Park RangersH

OCTOBER

Wed. 5 Crystal PalaceA

Sat. 8 ChelseaH

Sat. 15 SouthamptonA

Sat. 29 Luton TownH

NOVEMBER

Tues. 1 Swindon TownA

Tues. 8 WatfordH

Tues. 15 West Ham UnitedA

Sat. 19 ArsenalH

Wed. 30 Brighton & Hove AlbionA

DECEMBER

Sat. 3 Charlton AthleticH

Tues. 6 Tottenham HotspurA

Tues. 13 WimbledonA

Sat. 17 FulhamH

JANUARY

Tues. 3 Ipswich TownA

Sat. 14 Luton TownA

Sat. 21 Ipswich TownH

Tues. 31 MillwallA

FEBRUARY

Wed. 8 Oxford UnitedA

Tues. 14 PortsmouthA

Sat. 25 Swindon TownH

Tues. 28 Queen's Park RangersA

MARCH

Sat. 11 Tottenham HotspurH

Tues. 14 ChelseaA

Sat. 18 SouthamptonH

Tues. 28 Norwich CityA

APRIL

Sat. 8 WatfordA

Sat. 15 West Ham UnitedH

Tues. 18 Crystal PalaceH

Sat. 22 ArsenalA

Sat. 29 Brighton & Hove AlbionH

MAY

Tues. 9 Charlton AthleticA

Sat. 13 WimbledonH

The Young Ones

Brentford Youth 5, Reading Youth 1

A very young and inexperienced Royals side found it tough going against Brentford who were always much stronger physically.

The Royals youngsters did well to hold the Londoners to only a one goal lead at the break but after half time it was a different story as Brentford's strength began to tell.

Midfielder David Hodgson scored the Royals consolation goal towards the end but to their credit the side kept battling to the final whistle.

Reading Youth: Cochram, Henderson, Aust, Mallins (sub: Caldicott), Stevens, Luck, Hodgson, Seymour, Lovell, Butler, Holtzman. Sub: Nightingale.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION 2

AUGUST

Sat. 27	Swindon Town	.....A	LOST 2-3
Wed. 31	Luton Town	.....H	LOST 2-6

SEPTEMBER

Sat. 3	Brentford	.....A	LOST 1-5
Wed. 7	Brighton & Hove Albion	.....A	LOST 1-3
Sat. 10	Northampton Town	.....H	
Sat. 17	Brentford (SECLC Rd1)	.....H	
Sat. 24	Oxford United	.....A	

OCTOBER

Sat. 1	Colchester	.....H	
Sat. 8	AFC Bournemouth	.....A	
Sat. 15	Southampton	.....H	
Sat. 22	Crystal Palace	.....A	
Sat. 29	SECLC Rd2	.....A	

NOVEMBER

Sat. 5	Bristol Rovers	.....H	
Sat. 12	Wimbledon	.....H	
Sat. 19	Tottenham Hotspur	.....A	

DECEMBER

Sat. 3	Bristol City	.....A	
Sat. 10	Swindon Town	.....H	
Sat. 17	SECLC Rd3	.....A	
Sat. 31	Luton Town	.....A	

JANUARY

Sat. 7	Brentford	.....H	
Sat. 14	Brighton & Hove Albion	.....H	
Sat. 21	Northampton Town	.....A	
Sat. 28	Oxford United	.....H	

FEBRUARY

Sat. 4	Colchester	.....A	
Sat. 11	AFC Bournemouth	.....H	
Sat. 18	Southampton	.....A	
Sat. 25	Crystal Palace	.....H	

MARCH

Sat. 4	Bristol RoversA	
Sat. 11	WimbledonA	
Sat. 18	Tottenham HotspurH	

APRIL

Sat. 1	Bristol CityH	
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To be arranged: v Portsmouth (SJFC Rd1) A

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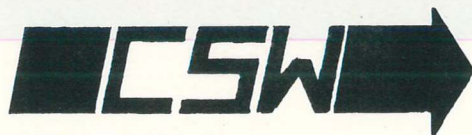
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NEXT STOP DIVISION 2?



MANAGER Ian Branfoot takes the helm as the Royals set out for Molineux from Reading railway station.

Network SouthEast laid on a football "special" for the Reading team and over 300 fans for the trip to Wolves.

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For the players it made a welcome change and skipper Martin Hicks said: "The only bad thing about the trip was the result."

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Commercial Corner *with Annie Bassett*



● Ian James, Public Relations/Promotions Manager for Network SouthEast is pictured at Reading station with Royals director John Campbell with the Network SouthEast mascot, before boarding the Football Special to Wolverhampton last week. We would like to thank Network SouthEast for a great day out and for their generous support.

STEWARDS & TURNSTILE OPERATORS REQUIRED

IF you come to Elm Park regularly, are over 18 years old and can handle responsibility why not become a steward or turnstile operator? You will be provided with training and equipment and will have free admission to the game and will be paid for your time, the rate depending on your duties. If you are interested or know a friend or relative who might be then please contact Dick Winter on Reading 507878 or call into the Main Office in Norfolk Road after the game.

TATTOO

The annual Tattoo will be held at Elm Park on Sunday, 18th September, 1988 commencing at 8.00pm, gates open 7.00pm. featured this year will be Grand Finale "1812" Overture, massed bands and firework display and the Red Devils. Tickets are available from the Tattoo Office, 32 Castle Street, Reading. Tel: 575593.

DON'T FORGET . . .

SAFE Campaign has started again, make sure your school calls for an appointment. Call Annie Bassett on Reading 507878.

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Our Executive Box space is now nearly full. If you require any information on this facility call Annie Bassett on Reading 507878.

We would like to thank people for their support with the above. Anthony Harding & Partners Ltd sponsors for Coronettes Club. Ramada Hotel sponsors for Family Enclosure. Burger King sponsors for SAFE Campaign.

Our sincere thanks to Nigel Cross for Souvenir and information outlets and to Living Store for Programme sales.



READING-BASED Starmaker Theatre Company have secured the first-ever stage rights to the 'Jungle Book.' They will be performing it at the Wilde Theatre, Bracknell on October 25-29 and will then move to Rivermead Leisure Centre. Through our SAFE Campaign and extensive local community involvement, Royals have linked up with Starmaker - a company specially for the 11-25 age group.

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Commercial Corner *with Annie Bassett*

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More "snaps" of Royals successful trip.



● Reading FC players (left to right): Karl Elsey, Billy Whitehurst, Stuart Beavon, Paul Franklin, Mick Tait and Les Taylor wait to board the Network SouthEast Special at Reading station.



● Happy Royals families get comfortable for the trip to Wolves.



● Reading fans being marshalled by our stewards on the way to the ground at Molineux.



● Mick Tait, just shielding Billy Whitehurst, Steve Moran and Les Taylor walking with Royals fans to the ground.



● Two of our youngest fans on our special trip.



● Arriving safely at Wolverhampton are Brenda Pinnock from the commercial office with Reading player Linden Jones and his family.

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GET YOUR BUSINESS
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to throw in ideas to help get
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READING *Colours: Blue/white/navy*

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 1 | Steve FRANCIS |
| 2 | Karl ELSEY |
| 3 | Steve RICHARDSON |
| 4 | Mick TAIT |
| 5 | Martin HICKS |
| 6 | Keith CURLE |
| 7 | Linden JONES |
| 8 | Les TAYLOR |
| 9 | Billy WHITEHURST |
| 10 | Steve MORAN |
| 11 | Michael GILKES |
| 12 | 14 |

BOLTON *Change colours: Red/white*

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 1 | David FELGATE |
| 2 | Phil BROWN |
| 3 | Barry COWDRILL |
| 4 | Nicky BROOKMAN |
| 5 | Dean CROMBIE |
| 6 | Mark WINSTANLEY |
| 7 | Gary HENSHAW |
| 8 | Steve THOMPSON |
| 9 | John THOMAS |
| 10 | Steve ELLIOTT |
| 11 | Julian DARBY |
| 12 | 14 |



OFFICIALS

Referee:

ALF BUKSH

(Dollis Hill, London)

Married with 20-year-old daughter. Started refereeing in 1970 before joining League list in 1983. Senior linesman at 1987/88 FA Charity Shield. Reserve referee Freight Rover Final, senior linesman UEFA Cup. Hobbies include all sports. Member of Harrow Referees' Society

Linesmen:

S. W. Dunn (yellow flag)
A. Schneider (red trim)

Reserve official: K. Dade

UP AND COMING

ROYALS

v

SOUTHEND

Wed, Sept 21, 1988 (8pm)
Football League Division 3

Hofmeister

For great lager— follow the bear

